

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

- (Currently amended) A triggered response composition comprising: one or more polyelectrolytes in contact with an aqueous system that is stable and insoluble in an aqueous system at an [[relatively high]] ionic strength equivalent to 0.5 M sodium chloride or higher [[or base concentration of between 1.0 M to 2.5 M or higher]] and when in contact with in an aqueous system at an ionic strength equivalent to less than 0.1 M sodium chloride, the composition [[that]] disperses, disintegrates, dissolves, destabilizes, swells, or combinations thereof; wherein the [[chemical/physical response of the composition is triggered upon one or more ionic strength or base strength changes to the aqueous system; wherein the]] polyelectrolyte is one or more alkali soluble polymers having a weight average molecular weight between 1,000 and 20,000 comprising: (a) 5-15 [[70]] weight percent of acidic monomers selected from methacrylic acid, 2-methylpropionic acid or acrylic acid; (b) [[30]] 85-95 weight percent of one or more non-ionic vinyl monomers selected from butyl acrylate, styrene and methyl methacrylate [[and optionally, (c) 0.01 to 5 weight percent of one or more metal cross-linking agents]].
- 2. (Currently amended) The triggered response composition according to claim 1 further comprising 0.01 to 5 weight percent of one or more metal cross-linking agents selected from the group consisting of alkaline earth ions calcium, magnesium and barium, and transition metal ions iron, copper and zinc [[wherein the composition is stable and insoluble in an aqueous system at relatively high ionic strength or base strength and wherein the composition disperses, dissolves, swells or disintegrates in an aqueous system at relatively low ionic strength, base strength, dilution of the aqueous system or when the ionic strength of the aqueous system in contact with the composition is lowered]].

3. (Currently amended) A [[triggered response]] barrier composition comprising: one or more polyelectrolytes of claim 1 [[in contact with an aqueous system, wherein the polyelectrolyte is one or more alkali soluble polymers comprising: (a) 5-70 weight percent of acidic monomers selected from methacrylic acid, 2-methylpropionic acid or acrylic acid; (b) 30-95 weight percent of one or more non-ionic vinyl monomers selected from butyl acrylate, styrene and methyl methacrylate and optionally, (c) 0.1 to 5 weight percent of one or more metal cross-linking agents, wherein the barrier composition surrounds one or more active ingredients; wherein the barrier composition is stable and insoluble in an aqueous system at relatively high ionic strength or base strength; wherein the barrier exhibits one or more chemical/physical responses selected from dispersing, disintegrating, dissolving, destabilizing, swelling, softening, flowing and combinations thereof; wherein the chemical/physical response of the composition is triggered upon one or more ionic strength or base strength changes to the aqueous system; and wherein the barrier composition is capable of releasing the active ingredients to the aqueous system as a result of the triggered response]].

4. (Currently amended) [[The]] <u>A</u> [[triggered response]] barrier composition according to claim <u>2</u> [[3 wherein the barrier composition is in the form of a film having particle diameters between 5 nm and 3000 μm]].

- 5. Cancelled
- 6. Cancelled
- 7. Cancelled
- 8. Cancelled